

PARALYMPIC SPORT CLUB NEWS

Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces



MIAMI-DADE



A Crash Course in Wheelchair Rugby

Wheelchair rugby, also known as “murderball” and formerly “quad rugby”, a sport that was created in Canada in 1976. The sport was developed as a means to provide an aggressive team sport for individuals who lacked some of the functional requirements to play wheelchair basketball which was the most common wheelchair team sport at the time.

Wheelchair rugby is a full-contact sport played on a typical basketball court which has a goal set up on each end. Teams consisting of four players on each side must move the ball which is typically a soft-touch volleyball down the court by passing it to one another. Opposing team members try to block players from passing the ball by either getting in the way, setting picks, or by stealing the ball. If a player who has possession of the ball crosses the goal line, a point is awarded.

Due to the nature of the sport, there is often a lot of crashing of wheelchairs, therefore, the game is played with custom sport wheelchairs that have either been specifically designed for or modified to play wheelchair rugby. The chairs have a front bumper designed to strike other chairs and the wheels have spoke protectors usually made out of some type of metal to withstand the constant ramming from other chairs.

Wheelchair rugby can be played by individuals who have quadriplegia, quadruple amputations, or other types of motor impairment involving all four extremities. Players must be classified according to their functional level in order to play competitively.

Wheelchair rugby is a Paralympic Sport and during the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio, the United States won the Silver medal.

Miami-Dade Parks is proud to partner with the newly forming Miami Vice Wheelchair Rugby team to offer this sport to individuals residing in the area. The team practices on Saturdays from 2:30-4:30 PM at Camp Matecumbe, located at 13841 SW 120 St.

The team is seeking sponsors who can assist with the expenses incurred upon operating a team such as uniforms, travel, and registration fees.

If you would like more information on the program or how you can help the team out, contact Jody Cox at 305-234-1673 or jody.cox@miamidade.gov.

WHAT'S GOING ON

2

WHAT'S GOING ON

3

ONGOING PROGRAMS

4

PARTNER PROGRAMS

5

PARTNER PROGRAMS

6

SPONSORS

7



Miami-Dade Parks Disability Services
305-755-7848
pds@miamidade.gov

PARALYMPIC SPORT CLUB NEWS

WHAT'S GOING ON...



Come out and support the Miami Heat Wheels as they prepare to go to the National Championship Tournament at a Pep Rally

Friday, March 24th, at 11:00 AM

NFL YET Center at Gwen Cherry Park

7090 NW 22nd Ave.

Miami, FL

For more information, call Diana Bonet, CTRS 305-752-4966 or diana.bonet@miamidade.gov or Jody Cox, CTRS 305-234-1673 or jody.cox@miamidade.gov

3rd Annual Boccia Tournament

Saturday

April 22, 2017

Miami Springs Recreation Center

1401 Westward Dr.

Miami Springs, FL

Team Registration fee: \$15

Includes lunch

The event will be limited to a maximum of eight teams for a double elimination event.

Contact Jody Cox, CTRS for more information or to register at 305-234-1673 or jody.cox@miamidade.gov.



All program days and times are subject to change and may be cancelled due to weather or number of participants.
Please call program contact prior to attending a program to verify program location and time.

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SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Are you in need of financial assistance to pay for programs? If so, please let us know! There are limited amount of scholarships available to individuals who can demonstrate financial need. Some conditions apply. For more information, please contact Jody Cox, CTRS at 305-234-1673 or Jody.Cox@miamidade.gov.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you or your organization are interested in volunteering in any of the programs or events that are offered by Miami-Dade Parks, please contact Jody Cox, CTRS at 305-234-1673 or email Jody.Cox@miamidade.gov. Some of our Paralympic Partners are also seeking volunteers to assist them with their programming needs. You can also reach the following for more volunteer opportunities:

City of Miami Parks and Recreation– Ralph Abreu, 305-960-4970 or rabreu@miamigov.com

The Sabrina Cohen Foundation- 305-968-8024 or Sabrina@sabrinacohenfoundation.org

ADAPTED SPORTS GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE!

The Kelly Brush Foundation:

The **Kelly Brush Foundation** Grant is now accepting applications for individuals who would like to get adapted sports equipment. Individuals applying must have either a spinal cord injury, spina bifida, or transverse myelitis with paralysis. Grants usually range from \$2,500-\$3,000 and can purchase equipment such as sports wheel-chairs, mono-skis, handcycles, or bowling ramps. Grant cycles occur twice a year. The deadline to apply for the current cycle is March 31st, 2017. For more information on guidelines and to apply, please visit their webpage at www.kellybrushfoundation.org. If you need any letters of support or documentation, please let us know and we will be happy to assist you!

The Challenged Athletes Foundation:

The **Challenged Athletes Foundation** also offers grants to individuals with various disabilities in order to purchase adapted sports equipment, cover travel expenses related to competition, or to pay for sports-related training. This grant is only opened once a year and typically opens at the beginning of September and closes in early December. For more information on the next grant opportunity, please visit www.challengedathletes.org.

We strongly encourage all of our participants to apply for these grants, especially when specialized equipment is being used. We will assist you in getting letters of support when needed.

PI= Physical Impairment VI=Visual Impairment A=Adult (18 and older) Y=Youth (6-17)

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ONGOING MIAMI-DADE PARKS PROGRAMS

Archery (PI, VI, A) (September-April)

Camp Matecumbe, 13841 SW 120 St.

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 10am-12pm

Contact: 305-234-1673, Jody.Cox@miamidade.gov

Boccia (PI, Y, A) (January-April)

Miami Springs Recreation Center, 1401 Westward Dr.,

Dates: 2/15/17, 3/17/17, & 4/4/17, 10am-12pm

Contact: 305-234-1673, Jody.Cox@miamidade.gov

JR. Paralympic Sports Club (PI, VI, Y) (October-April)

Camp Matecumbe, 13841 SW 120 St.

Saturdays, 10 am to 12 pm

Contact: 305-234-1673, Jody.Cox@miamidade.gov

Handcycling (PI, Y, A) in partnership with the FIU RT Program (October-April)

Tamiami Park, 11201 SW 24 St., Miami

Thursdays,

Contact: 305-222-2128, Arlene.Bouza-Jou@miamidade.gov

Swimming (PI, VI, Y, A) (September-April)

AD Barnes Park, 3701 SW 72 Ave.

Saturdays, 10:30am-12:30pm

Contact: 305-380-9106, Belinda.Phillips@miamidade.gov

Wheelchair Basketball (PI, Y, A) (August-March)

Miami Spring Recreation Center, 1401 Westward Dr.

Saturdays, 2pm-4pm

Contact: 305-752-4966, Diana.Bonet@miamidade.gov

Wheelchair Rugby (PI, A) (October-April)

Camp Matecumbe, 13841 SW 120 St.

Saturdays, 2:30pm-4:30pm

Contact: 305-234-1673, Jody.Cox@miamidade.gov



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PARALYMPIC PARTNER PROGRAMS IN MIAMI-DADE



Adaptive Beach Days hosted by the Sabrina Cohen Foundation

6475 Collins Ave., Miami Beach

1st and 3rd Saturday of every month, 11am-3pm. Must RSVP.

Contact: 305-968-8024 or Sabrina@sabrinacohenfoundation.org

Handcycling (PI, Y, A) Offered by Achilles of South Florida

Homestead Air Reserve Park, 27401 SW New York Ave., Homestead

Saturdays, 9am –11am

Contact: Francisco Abreu, 305-469-9379

Handcycling (PI, Y, A) Offered by The City of Miami Parks and Recreation (October-April)

Curtis Park, 1901 NW 24th St., Miami

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, 10am-12pm

Contact: Ralph Abreu, 305-960-4970, rabreu@miamigov.com

Rowing (PI, VI) Offered by the Miami Beach Rowing Club

6500 Indian Creek Dr., Miami Beach

Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays, 7am-11am (must call)

Contact: 305-861-8876, bobbyw@the-beach.net

Sailing & Kayaking (PI, VI, Y, A) Offered by Shake-A-Leg of Miami

2620 South Bayshore Dr., Miami

Contact: 305-858-5550

Sailing (PI, VI) Offered by Team Paradise Sailing

2676 South Bayshore Dr., Miami

By appointment only. Reserve your sail during business hours:

Monday-Closed, Tuesday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday - Sunday 9am-4pm

Contact: Magnus Liljedahl, info@teamparadise.org

Tandem Cycling (VI) Offered by the City of North Miami Beach

Gwen Margolis Amphitheater, 16501 NE 16th Ave., North Miami Beach

Saturdays, 9:30am-10:30am

Contact: 305-948-2928, delven.patterson@city.nmb.com



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PARALYMPIC PARTNER PROGRAMS IN MIAMI-DADE cont.

Wheelchair Tennis (PI, A) Offered by JD Barbosa Tennis in partnership with Miami-Dade Parks

Tropical Park, 7900 SW 40 St., Days and times TBD.

Contact: jd@tropicalparktennis.com

Wheelchair Tennis (PI, Y, A) Offered by the City of Miami Parks and Recreation (August-May)

Bryant Park, 2301 SW 13 St., Miami

Mondays & Wednesdays, 1pm-4pm

Contact: Noel Cubela, 305-643-7150

Wheelchair Tennis (PI, A) Offered by the City of North Miami Beach

Judge Authur Snyder Tennis Center, 16851 West Dixie Hwy., North Miami Beach

Contact: 305-948-2928, delven.patterson@city.nmb.com

PARALYMPIC PARTNERS & AFFILIATES IN BROWARD & PALM BEACH COUNTIES

Achilles of Florida (PI, VI, Y, A)

Offering Handcycling throughout Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. Contact: Jacqui Kapinowski, kappy831@aol.com

Adapted Golf Institute (Broward County)

Contact: Ryan Chiplock, 954-812-3933, golf@adaptivegolfinstitute.org

Adapted Sports & Recreation Program of Memorial Rehabilitation Institute (PI, Y, A) (Broward County)

Offering: Various adapted sports clinics and events throughout the year. Contact: Ray Shipman, 954-558-5173

Broward County Parks & Recreation (PI, Y, A)

Offering Handcycling and Tandem Cycling. Contact: Dori Horowitz-Remillet, CTRS, 954-357-8170, dhorowitz@broward.org

Paralympic Sport Club-Palm Beach County Parks (PI, Y, A)

Offering: Boccia, Goalball, Golf, Handcycling, Wheelchair Rugby, and Swimming. Contact: Stacey Staebell, CTRS 561-966-7021

Sled Hockey-Palm Beach Tiger Sharks (PI, Y, A) (Palm Beach County)

Contact: Daniella Robbins, CTRS, 941-538-2339, drobbins@pbcgov.org

Wheelchair Basketball-Ft. Lauderdale Sharks (PI, A) (Broward County)

Contact: Sherrod Nelson, 954-993-3889

Wheelchair Basketball-Sunrise Suns (PI, A) (Broward County)

Contact: Fran Wade, 954-748-3084, sunrisesuns1@gmail.com

Wheelchair Tennis Programs (Broward County)

Ft. Lauderdale: 954-828-4620 , Plantation: 954-452-2530

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**A Special Thank You to All of Our Sponsors Who Make Programming Affordable for
Individuals with Physical and Visual Disabilities!**

Bronze Medal Sponsors (Sponsors whose in-kind or financial contributions +\$200)

Celebrity Rehab and Medical Center

Silver Medal Sponsors (Sponsors whose in-kind or financial contributions +\$1000)

Gold Medal Sponsors (Sponsors whose in-kind or financial contributions +\$2500)

The Jackson Health Foundation

The City of Miami Springs Parks and Recreation Department



Circle of Champions (Sponsors whose in-kind or financial contributions +\$5000)

The Leisure Access Foundation

The Miami HEAT

Leisure Access Foundation
Making sports, recreation and the arts accessible to all



If you would like more information on how you or your organization can become a sponsor of our events or programs or you would like to partner with us for a special event, please contact Jody Cox at 305-234-1673 or jody.cox@miamidade.gov.

To request material in accessible format, information on access for persons with disabilities, or sign language interpreter services (7 days in advance), call 305-755-7848 or email pds@miamidade.gov



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